

Twitter Terms and Tags

Following	You follow other people and companies you're interested in— which means you get their messages as they post.
Tweet	A message posted via Twitter containing 140 characters or fewer.
@Username	Twitter lets you exchange public messages with individual users. Simply start your messages with @(username). Example. @RaeMcNally Thank you for following us on Twitter.
D, DM, Direct Message	Direct messages—or DMs—are Twitter's private messaging channel. These do not appear on your wall.
RT, ReTweet	A Tweet by another user, forwarded to you by someone you follow. Often used to spread news or share valuable findings on Twitter. Also, the act of forwarding another user's Tweet to all of your followers.
Trending Topics	On the right side of your screen and on the Twitter search page, you'll see ten Trending Topics, which are the most-mentioned terms on Twitter at that moment.
Hashtag (#)	A Hashtag is just the # symbol followed by a term describing or naming the topic—that you add to a post as a way of saying, "This message is about the same thing as other messages from other people who include the same hashtag." Example: #PugetSound #scoopthepoop #ECONet #FF (Follow Friday)
Tweetup	An in-person gathering organized via Twitter, often spontaneous. Companies use them for things like hosting launch parties, connecting with customers and introducing like-minded followers to each other.
Shortened URLs	There are also a number of services—URL shorteners—that take regular links and shrink them down to a manageable length for tweets, and some even let you track clicks. (TinyURL, bit.ly, goo.gl, tiny.cc, ity.im, tr.im, Ow.ly)

SMS	Short Message Service (SMS) is most commonly known as text messaging. Most messages are a maximum of 140 characters.
Spam	Unwanted messaging or following on Twitter.
RSS Feed	Most commonly expanded as Really Simple Syndication. A family of web feed formats used to publish frequently updated works—such as blog entries or news headlines—in a standardized format.